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Messina, Jan. 26. *N. S.*

BY a Vessel lately arrived from *Smyrna*, we have Letters from that place of the 7th of *December*, by which we are informed, That the Lord *Paget*, His Majesty of *Great Britain's* Ambassador to the Port, had received a Message from the Grand Viser, desiring him to come to *Adrianople*, where he had Matters of great Importance to Impart to him; and that at the same time Orders had been sent to the Caimacan of *Constantinople* to furnish his Excellency with all the Conveniencies he might want for his Journey; Whence it is conjectured, That the Turks moved by the ill posture of their Affairs in general, and particularly by the Poverty to which their Country is reduced by a long and expensive War, are inclined to a Peace, and that they intend, by the means of the English Ambassador, to make some Overtures in order thereunto. The *Reward*, Captain *Thomas Bennett*, sailed hence this day for *Smirna*. The *Blackham* is sailed for *England*.

Leghorne, Feb. 10. Several English Ships are lately arrived here, as is also a French Man of War of 40 Guns, called the *Entreprenant*, who reports, That being in Company of the *Vaillant*, of 50 Guns, formerly an English Prize, called the *Mary Rose*, they met off *Cyprus* with a Dutch Ship richly laden, named, *The Merchant of Syria*, whom they engaged, (not knowing of the Peace) and fought several hours; at last, the *Vaillant*, laying the Dutch Ship on Board, they both took Fire and blew up. About 200 of the French were saved, and 60 of the Dutch; The Commander of the latter, Captain *Van Eberen* was killed in the Fight, in which the *Entreprenant* lost likewise 25 Men.

Venice, Feb. 14. On Thursday morning the Earl of *Manchester*, his Majesty of *Great Britain's* Ambassador Extraordinary to this State, received a Message from the Senate, by one of their Secretaries, desiring he would be pleased to come the next day, and receive their Answer to the Speech he made to them at his publick Audience; for tho' the Doge had then reply'd with a great deal of Civility, yet 'twas only in general Terms till the Senate had considered of it, (of which for that purpose a Copy had been left with them) and agreed on an Answer to be returned to the same. Accordingly his Excellency went last Friday to the Colledge, and was received with the usual Ceremony; (as is the Custom here at all Publick Audiences) and a Copy of the Senate's Answer was afterwards given to Mr. *Stanyan*, Secretary of the Embassy. The Republick has on all these Occasions, expressed a very great Respect and Veneration for the King his Master, and much Esteem of the English Nation, and of his Excellency in particular. Signior *Venier*, who was appointed to receive and conduct him, is one of the Chief Magistrates of the Commonwealth, and the 60 Senators which were ordered to accompany him, are of the first and most Ancient Families of *Venice*: And every thing was performed to the Satisfaction of his Excellency, whose Entry is by all Persons acknowledged the most Magnificent of any that has been for several years. His Excellency has since received several Visits of Ceremony from the Spanish and French Ambassadors, and other publick Ministers. The Senate have resolved to hire several great Ships, to be employed as Men of War, for reinforcing their Fleet; and 'tis said, they intend likewise to take more Troops into their Service, and to have a very good Army in *Dalmatia* this Summer, where they will be of very great use. And towards supporting these Expences, the Senate will borrow a considerable Sum of several Genoueses who are willing to Lend them Money at a very reasonable Interest; and Signior *Retinart's* Proposal will be accepted, who offers 100000 Ducats on Condition he may be made a Nobleman.

Warsaw, Febr. 9. The Primate's Demands have been the Subject of several Consultations at this Court, at which a great number of Persons of the chiefest Quality assisted, and those especially were considered, by which he insists, That a Declaration may be made, that for the future, no King of *Poland* shall be Crowned but by the Primate, or such as he appoints, and that Pardon shall be asked him for the Affront that has been offered to his Dignity and Character, and particularly by the Bishop of *Cujavia*, in having intruded into this Office; These Propositions are generally disliked, and seem intollerable to those that are most zealous in the King's Interests; But it being looked upon as a necessary step to the Pacification of the Kingdom, to have Things adjusted with the Primate and his Party, all possible Endeavours are used to bring him to a better Temper; and an Express has been sent to *Rome* to solicite the Pope to employ his Offices to this Effect. The Ministers of this Court are likewise endeavouring to compose the Differences in *Lithuania*, which the high Pretensions of both Parties renders no easie matter; however, the Account we have of the Proceedings of the Commissioners the King has sent thither, gives us some hope, that this difficulty may also be overcome, and the Differing Parties brought to a Friendly Accommodation. The General Diet being appointed for the 16th of *April*, the particular Assemblies are ordered to meet six weeks before, in order to settle all Matters in the several Provinces, and choose and instruct their Deputies to be sent to the said General Diet. A Dispute being arisen between some Persons of Quality here, and the two Princes, Sons of the last King, about Precedency, the latter, to avoid the Difficulties they might otherwise meet with, have left this place, and are gone to *Silesia*, where they intend to pass some time.

Vienna, Feb. 15. It being resolved to augment the Emperors Fleet on the *Danube*, several Vessels are Building, and of greater force then have yet been made use of, which are to be ready by the month of *May* at farthest. Monsieur *Gaurenitz* is gone hence with the Character of his Imperial Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to *Moscow*. Several Officers are arrived here from *Poland* to Buy Tents and other Necessaries for the German Regiments in that King's Service, which they say, are to be ready to take the Field by the beginning of *May*. The Thaw, and the great Rains which are lately fallen, have much swelled the *Danube*, and the Ice driving down the River, has taken away a great part of the Bridge belonging to this City. We hear from *Peter-Waradin*, That the Turks design to make a Line near *Belgrade*, along the *Save*, to defend the Passage of that River; That some Money had been sent to the Commanding Bassa for that Service, and a great number of Pallisadoes were preparing to be used in that Work, and in the repairing of *Vipalanka*. They also intend, as soon as the weather will permit, to add some new Fortifications to the Fortress of *Temeswar*.

Francfort, Feb. 23. The French have put off the Evacuation of *Philipsburg* to the 3d of *March*, by which time they think to have demolished the Fortress of *Ebernburg*, which they are to quit likewise. A Diet is to assemble here this week on the part of several Neighbouring Cities of the *Upper Rhine*, to consider of the Supplies demanded of them towards the maintaining of the German Garison that is to enter into *Philipsburg*. The French at *Lautern* have demolished that Castle, and at *Homburg* they are doing the like. The Elector *Palatin* is shortly expected here, where he will stay some time, and a House is accordingly preparing for his Reception.

Paris, Feb. 24. The Count *de Crecy* is made choice of to go as Commissioner from the French King to Confer with those that shall be named by the Emperor, for Adjusting the Pretensions of the

Dutchess